

Glory to the everyday heroes who are caring for the wounded, feeding desperate families huddling in basements and subway stations, glory to the professional soldiers and citizens alike who have taken up arms and are putting their lives on the line to defend their beloved homeland in the cause of freedom, against great odds. Glory to the heroes. Heroiam Slava. Godspeed to them in their battle for a free and independent Ukraine.

Some may ask—and some of my colleagues here have asked me: Why does a Senator from Ohio get involved in Ukraine? Why do you care? Well, tens of thousands of Ukrainian Americans call Ohio home, as do hundreds of thousands of others who trace their family to that part of the world; and it is an honor to represent them and their values.

I stood together with a thousand fellow Ohioans at a prayer service and rallied for Ukraine 2 weeks ago in Parma, OH, just outside of Cleveland. We prayed for family and friends in Ukraine who are in harm's way. We prayed for the courageous Ukrainian troops and asked for God's wisdom and blessing on the duly elected Government of Ukraine and, of course, for the protection of President Zelenskyy.

Ohioans like Andy Futey and Marta Liscynsky are rallying support across our State and coordinating efforts to provide humanitarian relief to those in need in Ukraine and in neighboring European countries. They are heading up through the United Ukrainian Organizations of Ohio a fund called the Fund to Aid Ukraine. I contributed to it. They do great work.

Two weeks ago, Sunday, I was honored to speak at an emotional rally in Washington, DC, much like the one in Parma, OH, only larger. Again, many Ohioans were there. And this past weekend on the border between Ukraine and Poland, Ohioans were there volunteering.

But even if I didn't have a single constituent of Ukrainian descent, I would be standing shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine because this fight is our fight. This is where, in our generation at this time, all freedom-loving people are called to defend what we hold dear.

Eight years ago, Ukrainians made a choice. They stood up to a corrupt Russian-backed government. They stood up for freedom, for free markets, for peace and prosperity, and for the rule of law. They looked to America, and they looked to the EU. They chose freedom over tyranny. They chose a democracy over an authoritarian regime. I was there in 2014, right after the Heavenly Hundred who stood up to the corrupt Russian-backed government were killed in what was called the Euromaidan or the Revolution of Dignity. I saw firsthand then the commitment the people of Ukraine had to freedom and independence, to charting their own course.

Right now, those friends in Ukraine need our help. We cannot let this call

to action go unanswered. We cannot sit by and watch as innocent civilians are brutally killed.

America and our allies must stand up for freedom, and the world is watching. Our friends are watching. Our adversaries are watching. We must show them that America stands with Ukraine.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I want to add one more quotation to the very stirring and powerful words that my colleague from Ohio has just given us.

Decades ago, President John F. Kennedy went to Berlin, and in a statement of resolve and commitment that mobilized the world, he said then, "I am a Berliner." And he spoke for America.

Today, we are all Ukrainians. Just as he said that he, as an American, was a Berliner, today, we are Ukrainian.

My colleague from Ohio is absolutely right that this fight is ours and there are actions we can take—not just words—that will make a difference: actions that should not and will not involve American troops or an escalatory response, actions that will be in the best tradition of the United States, going back to our own Revolution when we overcame a more massive British force. We didn't need to defeat them; we simply needed to survive. And by surviving, George Washington understood that the British would be defeated.

And so we can enable resilience and resolve of the Ukrainian people to defeat the Russians, if we give them what we need, if we give them more of what we have been giving them. And today, truly, this bell tolls for us; and it is the world's fight, not just the Ukrainians'.

I thank my friend and fellow Senator from Ohio for leading us on this trip, and I hope that our colleagues, a few of them may have heard us tonight at this hour—but I hope they will come to the floor and that we will continue this conversation because it is a debate that really unites all of us across the aisle, as did the resolution which passed overwhelmingly.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M.  
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10:30 tomorrow morning.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:54 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

## NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RHEANNE WIRKALA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE ROBERT R. HOOD, RESIGNED.

BRENDAN OWENS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE LUCIAN NIEMEYER.

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SUSIE FELIZ, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE MICHAEL PLATT, JR., RESIGNED.

### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

REBECCA F. DYE, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2025. (REAPPOINTMENT)

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CARMEN G. CANTOR, OF PUERTO RICO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE DOUGLAS W. DOMENECH.

### UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

JANET KELLER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2023, VICE ELIZABETH F. BAGLEY, TERM EXPIRED.

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SHEFALI RAZDAN DUGGAL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS.

### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be brigadier general

COL. STEPHEN R. SMITH

### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JACQUELYN MCCLELLAND

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) ERIC C. RUTTENBERG

REAR ADM. (LH) THOMAS S. WALL

REAR ADM. (LH) LARRY D. WATKINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL J. STEFFEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. CHARLES KIROL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MARK R. MYERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID M. BUZZETTI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID G. MALONE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. CHARLES M. BROWN

CAPT. INGRID M. RADER

CAPT. MICHAEL TANNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ROBERT J. DODSON

CAPT. MICHAEL S. RICHMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. LUKE A. FROST

CAPT. MARK B. SUCATO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203: